

REVISED EDITION
A
COLLECTION
OF
TRACTS

On several Useful and Interesting
SUBJECTS,

Relating to Publick Affairs :

Necessary to be considered, especially
at this present Time.

By an eminent Hand.



[Price One Shilling.]

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OF

FRAGMENTS

On several Ural and Leningrad

SUBJECTS

Remaining in the collection

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[Price One Shilling]

A
COLLECTION
OF
TRACTS

On several Useful and Interesting
SUBJECTS,

Relating to Publick Affairs ;

Necessary to be considered, especially at this
present Time.

- I. A Proposal to prevent such *Dreadful Conflagrations*, as have lately happened in *London*, and other Cities and Towns in this Kingdom ; some of the latter having been burnt down twice in Twenty Years Time ; by which great Numbers of People have been ruined, and left miserable very long, if not irretrievably reduced to Poverty, and to the Loss of many Lives ; And a Method offered for the speedy and effectual Relief of the Sufferers.
- II. Reasons for altering the Method of our Land-Carriage, and a Method proposed for repairing and keeping the Roads in good Order at all Times, and at an easy Charge, to the Benefit of Carriers and all People.
- III. A Scheme to prevent Robberies, Deer-stealing, destroying Game, and pernicious Gaming.
- IV. A Scheme proposed for preserving Sailors from that inveterate Scurvy, which in long Voyages destroy many of them, and renders many of them useless and burdensome.
- V. A Method for the Preservation of our River and Pond Fisheries from the daily Destruction that is now made of them, shewing the Insufficiency of the Laws now in being to restrain that wicked Practice.
- VI. A Proposal for increasing our National Wealth, by a moderate Restraint and Limitation of Exportation of our Tin and Lead unwrought ; and for encouraging the Exportation of it manufactured in all useful Forms and Fashions.

L O N D O N :

Printed for THOMAS TRYE, near Gray's-Inn-Gate, in Holbourn.

M,DCC,XLVIII.

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COLLECTION

OF

TRACTS

Of Great Use and Interest

SUBJECTS

Religious and Moral

Necessary to be considered, especially at this
crisis of the human mind.

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X. A Review of the present state of the human mind, and of the progress of knowledge and science, and of the influence of these on the moral and political condition of the world.



A PROPOSAL to prevent such dreadful Conflagrations as have lately happened in London, and likewise consumed many Towns, some of them twice in Twenty Years Time; by which great Numbers of People have been ruined and left miserable very long, if not irretrievably reduced to Poverty, and to the Loss of many Lives; and a Method offer'd for the speedy and effectual Relief of the Sufferers.

HUMAN Compassion does not alone excite our utmost Endeavours to prevent such deplorable Catastrophies as are caused by consuming Fires, or otherways. But the vast Sums that are necessarily and frequently contributed, to relieve the miserable Sufferers, demonstrate that it will be good Policy, as well as Charity, to have in all Places a Remedy at hand, as much as is possible to avert such Calamities. As it will save much publick Expence, as well as prevent the Ruin and save the Lives of many Sufferers, who oft perish in the Flames; or by Frights, and by Colds, for want of Harbour and Sustenance.

And it seems absolutely necessary, by a Law to oblige all Towns and large Villages of contiguous Buildings, to keep a sufficient Number of Engines of several Sizes, and Buckets and long Poles with Hooks and Rings for Ropes, to employ many Hands to pull down such Parts

of Buildings as endanger the rest ; either at the Charge of the Town, if able, or of the Hundred or County, or by a National Charge in some Cases.

Some Towns in clayey Soils want Water, but Reservoirs of Rain-Water may be made in as many Parts of the Town, as is necessary ; and Clay Bottoms will preserve Water a long Time, and Water may, when necessary, be brought to the Reservoirs to be kept in store ; and the removing all Obstacles and Impediments will be but a small Charge, compared to the Loss of a Town, &c.

Before the present Method of gathering Brieves, many Sufferers by a few Houses being burned, wandered about all Parts of *England* so long in collecting the Money granted by Brieves, as to contract a Habit of Idleness, Luxury, Drunkenness, Gaming and Whoring, that proved their utter Ruin ; for they spent all the Money they got, and never settled to any Business, but became mere Vagabonds, and a Charge to the Publick. And, in large Devastations, when Deputies went to gather the charitable Collections, if they did not fall into the same Snare, or did not defraud the Sufferers, it took up so much time that all such Sufferers as had not Money or Lands of their own were unable to live, except in Drudgery and Slavery ; and either died before they were fully relieved, or were forced to go to other Countries to seek a poor Maintenance, before their Loss could be reimburs'd ; and then it was too late for them to
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be put into a good way to live, or not as well as they did before their Ruin, their Trade being lost, or fallen into other Hands not to be retrieved,

But the present Method of collecting Briefs is very defective, and is too dilatory and expensive, by employing a great Number of Riding Collectors that go in Circuits once or twice a Year ; and it can never answer the End, as it cannot give such speedy Relief to indigent Sufferers, as is necessary for their present Support ; nor pay the whole Loss under too long a Time, if ever, so fully as it ought to be.

And the only effectual Method seems to be, to have a Charitable Corporation of Relievers in *London*, to be conducted as the Companies of Insurers are, by Gentlemen of Estates ; to give good Security, and that have Money in the Bank of *England* (as the Insurers have) ready to give speedy Relief to the Sufferers, as far as their present Necessities require it ; and the whole Loss and Damage to be repaired as soon as the Devastation can possibly be computed and ascertain'd.

And *per Cent.* allow'd out of the Money collected, for Money advanced ; and reasonable Charges for Men necessarily employ'd in the Management of the Office, and at all distant Dependencies upon it.

And, if all Letters relating to the Office are allowed to pass Post-free, it will be a material Point in the Execution of the Trust ; and if Briefs are granted as soon as the Loss can be

known, they may be speedily sent to the Archdeacons of every District, for every Parish and Chapelry in their Archdeaconries. And thus the Collections may be made at once, without Delay, thro' the whole Kingdom. And the Churchwardens of each Parish should immediately go with the Money (and a Letter from the Minister, as a Duplicate of the Sum Total receiv'd) to the Archdeacon ; who may, by a proper Agent, pay the Money that he receives to a Receiver of the Land-Tax, or Collector of Excise or Customs, that is nearest at hand, to be speedily returned to the Commissioners of Relief at *London*; and Duplicates to be made from all Hands concern'd, and printed, as a check to discover Frauds, and for a due and faithful Execution of the Trust in all respects. And this Method will save much of the vast Expence of Riding Collectors of Briefs throughout *England*, and be abundantly more expeditious, and be fully effectual to answer the End in due Time.

It is a common Practice in *London* for Thieves to attend at destructive Fires, and to carry off all Goods of great Value that are portable, which People in Consternation have often suffered them to do, when their Houses were in danger, but have escaped the Fire ; and so they have lost their Goods by Rogues, when their Houses have been saved.

And, as sometimes it has not been discovered how the Fires began, it has been suspected that Rogues have set Houses on Fire, on purpose

pose to make a Gain of it ; and Insurers have been suspected to do it to frighten People to insure, when they would leave off if Fires were not frequent, And, to prevent that Evil in some large Foreign Cities, they keep Rails in proper Places ; and the Night-Guards carry them and fix them a-cross the Street, at convenient Distances each Way, from Houses that are on Fire ; and the Guards suffer no Body to go within the Rails, more than a sufficient Number of useful Hands to extinguish the Fires, and to bring the Goods that can be saved to the Barriers, to be kept safe by the Guards till they can be return'd to the right Owners.

And, to compleat all, some judicious, reputable and disinterested Intendants should be authorised, in all Places, to inspect the Devastations, and receive Informations, and to make a just Estimate of the Loss sustained by every Person ; and to send speedy Accounts of them to the Commissioners in *London*, and to receive from them and pay to the Sufferers, without Delay, all such Sums of Money as shall give them present Relief, and in due time to reimburse the whole Loss and Damage sustain'd.

If *London* had been rebuilt by Sir C. Ren's Plan, it would have been compleat ; and it would be well if the Commissioners, with Assistance and Intendants, were authorised and impowered and appointed by Law to oblige the re-building of Towns or Streets and Houses, to be done in a firm and regular Manner, free from Nuisances by narrow Passages, and without

out Back-doors ; for some have been re-built in a mean, pittiful, slight, inconvenient, and irregular Form, and in continued Nuisances, when a little Alteration of the former Irregularities would increase the Rents, and make the whole Building commodious and beautiful, at the same Charge as they re-build in a slight and preposterous Manner, as *Northampton* and *Warwick* proves in their Re-building.

As for such Engines as are to be provided at a National Charge (as may be in some poor remote Parts of the Kingdom) they may be supplied by the Commissioners: And a Power should be lodged in some Hands to enforce on Penalties the Keeping of Engines, and all necessary Things, every where to be ready to extinguish destructive Fires.

The present Mismanagement in extinguishing Fires in *London*, wants to be corrected and better directed. The Insurers are negligent of Houses not insur'd, and sometimes dilatory where they are insured; because, if but few and little Devastations were made, few Men would insure, and then their profitable Offices would fall to nothing. And I have observ'd, when in *London*, that either they have not Men always fitly qualified to play Engines, or that they knowingly play them where it can save nothing, and neglect to play them where it is necessary to prevent the Fires spreading farther; and their Fire-men live at distant Parts of the Town, and their Engines are oft far from Houses that are on Fire, and great Destruction is made before

before they can work to any sufficient Purpose.

I have, by being thought to be a Justice of the Peace in *London*, prevented two great Devastations at Midnight, that seemed unavoidable, by giving Directions for fetching Engines from many Parishes, and by being obeyed by Men that were acting in a very wrong Manner; and I, in good part master'd the Fires, before the Insurers People appeared.

And it seems necessary, that Justices at their Quarter-Sessions should (not only once, but often) have Publick Notice given by all the Constables, that at the first Appearance of a House being on Fire, People should run to all the nearest Engines, which should be kept by Men skilful in playing them; and they, for reasonable Pay, should be obliged to go to play them on Penalty; and their Houses should have the Sign of an Engine, or be written upon, *Here lives the Engine-Keeper*.

And it would be well, if People would keep Rope-Ladders with Hooks to fix at Windows, and go down them to save their Lives; or if they have Ropes long and strong, they may fix them to the Bed's-Foot, or on an Iron Pin at a Window fix'd on purpose, or keep near hand an Iron Pin to screw on upon occasion; and if they hold the Rope by their Hands, and keep it between their Feet by crossing their Legs over it, they may descend with Ease and Safety. Some School-Boys make a Play of going up a Bell-Rope, and coming down that Way;

Way; and they will stop half-way, and hold by one Hand, and swing about, to shew how easy it is to keep steady on any Part of the Rope. And a Rope-Ladder, or Rope, may be bought for a small Price.

This Advice may prevent People's destroying themselves (as many have done) by throwing themselves out of their Chamber-Windows.

If any Part of these Proposals are approved, I shall think myself happy in being serviceable in my Mite. But, as I don't presume to be a Judge in the Case, nor can have any Interest in the Management of it, I most humbly submit it to the Legislature;

And subscribe myself by the Name of

COMMISERATUS.



REASONS



REASONS for Altering the Method of our Land-Carriage; and a Method proposed, for repairing and keeping the Roads in good Order at all Times, and at an easy Charge to the Benefit of Carriers, and of all People.

THAT the present Practice is detrimental to Trade, and to the Roads, and to Carriers too; will, I think, plainly appear, by the following Observations; and prove, that another Method will prevent many great Obstacles, to the certain and speedy Intercourse, in Trade and Business; and that the Carriers may get more Profit by this Method, than by that which is now used; and yet afford to carry Goods cheaper, than they can now do.

That our Roads are far worse than some other Countries, where the Soil is naturally more subject to sink into deep Holes and Sloughs, than ours; and in Places where the Ways are more frequented than ours, is obvious, as in Campaigns of great Armies it needs must be. And, I believe, this will in a Part appear, by considering that *Ireland* is almost every where a softer Soil than ours, and boggy in many Parts, in some Mountains as well as low Grounds; and in many Places they have very

stiff Clay ; and it cannot be deny'd, that their Roads within twenty Miles of *Dublin*, where the Ways from several considerable Cities and Towns meet, have a greater Quantity of Goods carried upon them, so near *Dublin*, than our Roads have two hundred Miles distant from *London* ; and yet our Roads at that Distance, are far worse than theirs are so near *Dublin*.

And that it is the Pressure of a few heavy Loads, and not the greater Number of light Draughts that makes the Roads deep, is demonstrable by the following Observation. One heavy Cannon drawn over a soft Morass, will so deeply plough the Ground, that it will be impossible for to follow it in the same Track ; and yet upon the same Ground if a great Number of Sutlers and Bread-Waggons, and other Carriages of one, two or three Horses Draught, as will carry twenty times the Weight of that one Cannon should pass over in one Track, they will all make but a small Impression, compared with that which the Cannon made.

United Strength, 'tis true, will do Wonders in some Cases, but in this Particular six Horses with six light Carriages can with Ease draw half as much more as six in one Carriage can do ; as, is thus prov'd : One Horse (or Man) can move almost twice as great a Weight when set close to it, as at twelve or twenty Yards Distance ; and six Horses in Geers take up sixteen Yards or more in Length ; if they constantly drew all together, they may draw a great Weight, but perhaps scarce six Horses in

a hundred will be found that will draw long together; for they generally soon grow too cunning, not to ease themselves when they can: And whoever shall observe it, will find, that whilst the Driver is whipping those Horses next the Waggon, the leading Horses will draw but very little. And so, on the contrary, very often the leading Horses have not only all the Load to draw, but the following Horses too; besides the frequent Remissness of the Drivers. But the more they draw, it is the worse for the Roads, and for Carriage too in all respects.

Our Carts with one Horse in *London*, usually draw a Tun Weight; and I have heard a reputable Trader say, he once had Thirty-seven Hundred Weight drawn up the Hill from the Water-side, and a good way into the City, by one Horse at one Draught; and, I believe, it would be found impossible for six Horses to draw up Hill six Times that Weight in one Draught: However, 'tis certain, that heavy Loads make ill Roads. And six Horses cannot draw so much in bad Ways, as four can do in good Ways; and travelling in ill Roads costs the Waggoners twice as much more, in Repairs of Waggon and Geers, and in being more Nights upon the Road in bad Roads, than in good ones; besides, it oft disables and kills their Horses, by the Accidents they meet with in ill Ways, and the Fatigue it gives their Horses, and the keeping them three Hours longer upon the Road every Day than they would need to

do, in going the same Stages, if the Roads were better and the Loads lighter.

In some Places, our Roads are at present by heavy Loads worn in so deep and narrow, that Horses cannot well draw with a Pole, or double Shafts; but if in the Beginning of Summer the Banks and Ridges were cast down in such Places, and the Act put in Force to make and keep the Roads wider duly executed, there would never be Occasion for it a second Time; especially, if the following Change of our Manner of Carriage be made; which, I most humbly propose, as a certain Way to answer all the Ends and Purposes before-mentioned, *viz.*

That a proper Time be fixed for enlarging the Roads where they need it, under the Penalty of ; and that from that Time all Waggoners be obliged to travel with light Waggon, with three Horses and no more; either with a Pole and two Horses in Pairs and one to lead, as our *Hampstead* Stage-Coaches do, and as all the Carts in *Cleaveland* in *Yorkshire* do; or with one Horse in a single Shaft, and the two Fore-Horses in Pairs; and that a Seat be made for the Driver, as in close Carriages: For that the Horses can draw more Weight this Way, and with more Ease, than with a Foot Driver, is very obvious; for upon a Seat well fixed his Weight is not felt, and he will ever have his Eye over the Horses, to make them draw all together; and he can best chuse the best Road for them, which a Foot Driver cannot always do; besides, in ill Roads, where the

the Horses have most need of Ease, he always sits upon the Shafts, where his Weight is felt six times more, than on a Seat made in a proper Place.

And by this Method of three Horse-Draught, the Horses of each following Waggon will fill up the Ground which the leading Waggon breaks, (which cannot be much with drawing a light Weight) and by this means the Roads will always be level, and the Horses will tread and draw with much more Ease, than now they can do; as we see in each Coach-Road, that Path in which Waggon-Wheels don't come, is always beat level. And I believe it will be found, that two Carriages this Way will carry so much more than six Horses in one Draught can do, as will very much enrich the Carriers at a cheaper Rate of Carriage; especially, if it be considered that with a six Horse-Waggon two Men are necessary to attend it in long Journeys, and one commonly rides upon a Saddle-Horse, and the Charge and Casualty of that Horse is equal to a third Man's Wages; but two Men that ride on Seats, are sufficient for two Carriages, that will carry more than one Waggon.

And if two light Waggon cost a little more than one that's large and strong enough for six Horses Draught, the Wear and Tear and Loss and Disabling of Horses, will be so much less this way (than by the Shocks and Wrenches they meet with in deep Roads, made by their heavy Loads) as will turn to their Advantage,

tage, and they will be able either to travel further each Day, or to come into their Inn some Hours sooner than they now can do ; which will preserve their Horses in better Heart, and they will last some Years the longer by such Usage.

And I believe it would be found of great Advantage to Trade, and profitable to the Undertakers, to have some Post-Waggons set up with the same Number of Horses, but with half the Loading, especially in carrying Fish, Fruit, Herbage, or any Goods that will not keep ; and they might travel with the same Speed as our Stage-Coaches do, which would be but half the Charge to the Waggoner in so speedy a Journey ; and consequently make him as great a Gainer as by carrying double the Weight in twice the Time.

There are some sort of Goods, and some special Occasions require a greater Speed than our Carriers can make ; and those Countries who practice this, and the Use of three Horse-Carriages, and will allow no more, find great Advantage by it every Way. And I dare presume to say, that if it were practised in *England*, we should find our Roads kept good with little Charge ; our Correspondence in Trade more certain, speedy and profitable, and the Carriers would grow too rich, if they did not lower the Price of Carriage.

But there is another Evil still wants remedying, by a Change of Custom ; and that is carrying Goods on Packhorses : This is that which
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in great Part makes *England* truly term'd a Hell for Horses And if one were to view the many hundred of Pack horses in the Stables that weekly come to *London* ; but few of them would be found without the Skin strip'd off their Backs, which frequently renders them unserviceable to the Owners great Loss, and sometimes kills them. And I have heard Carriers say, they seldom make a Winter Journey from the North, without loseing or disabling one or more Horses. And those disabled Horses are left at Inns at great Charges, besides Loss of Time, and the Proprietors Want of their Goods, and Trading feels a Check by it, especially when such Goods were designed for Fairs, or for speedy Occasions, and Goods that will not keep, and many Accidents, besides Horses oft falling under their Loads, keep them so long upon the Roads, as very much prejudices the whole Gang, and occasions that frequent Loss of Horses which so often breaks Horse-Carriers.

Besides this Evil, it occasions a general one to all Travellers ; for the great Weight these Horses carry make them tread very close, and wear a Path so narrow, and deep, that a good spirited Saddle-horse, that goes as wide as he ought to do, cannot go in the same Track without Difficulty and Danger to the Rider, and cutting the Horses Legs, which frequent Complaint.

It may be objected, that it will be impossible to carry Goods any other Way , but on Pack-horses

horses in *Wales*, and some other mountainous Parts in the North and West. But *Ireland* is as mountainous and rocky, as any of those Parts, and yet there is no such thing as a Pack-horse there; and their Goods of all Sorts are carried as safe and as well as ours, and not only so, but with their Cars which cost a little above twenty Shillings a-piece; one of their poor little Horses which live upon Commons, will draw from *Cork* to *Dublin* six hundred Weight in Summer, and five hundred in Winter; and the most that our Pack-Horses can carry on long Journeys, is two hundred in Winter and two hundred and fifty in Summer; and those Car-horses as naturally follow one another, as Pack-horses do; and one Man can drive as many of one, as of the other; nor is it scarce possible for them to overturn, for the Wheels being very low, and yet set at the same Distance as the largest Wheels are, they go very safe; and one of these Horses not only draws above twice as much as a Pack-horse carries, but doth it with far more Ease, and will serve twice as long.

And if they were as well fed as ours, they would travel as far in a Day; and in such Parts as the three Horse-Waggons cannot so well travel, the Use of Carts instead of Pack-horses would not half so much prejudice the Roads, but would make the Intercourse in Trade more certain and speedy, and the Carriage of Goods much cheaper, if a Horse drew no more than
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six hundred as in *Ireland*; but such Carts as are used in *Westmoreland* are far better.

And an honest City Carman, of good Understanding and Credit, told me, that one good Horse with a light Carriage judiciously made, may very well draw twelve hundred Weight from *Chester* to *London* in Summer, and ten hundred at any time, if the Roads are not extremely ill; but tho' six Horses do now draw near six times as much in one Carriage, yet so great a Weight, if continued without chargeable Repairs, will soon make the Roads too deep to continue it longer; and the Charge of Repairs would be greater, and the Cost of one such Waggon is more, than of six small Cars; and, considering that the Loading lies low, Horse-men may meet or pass them in a narrow Way, better than they can do Pack-horses.

And if this should employ more Men (which it does not in *Ireland*) it would be better; and if it employs fewer Horses 'twill be less prejudicial to the Publick, than the killing and disabling Horses is; and if Horse-Breeders would be careful to mend the Breed, it would encourage Foreigners to buy Horses of us, and increase the Breed of good Horses; which would turn to better Account, than the Pack-horse Breed can do.

I hope, it will appear by this Account, that it will be every way better to oblige the Waggoners to use two Carriages to six Horses, than to allow them to use six in one Draught,

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and

and to use one Horse-Carriage in some remote Parts of *England*.

This was written in 1706 or 1707, (when many Waggon had nine Horses) by Command of Mr. *Harley*, when Secretary of State, (afterwards Lord *Oxford*) but some State-Affairs had made him delay shewing it to the House of Commons, till the Bill for six Horses in a Carriage was read a Second Time ; and then he said, it was too late.

That Act for six Horses was made in 1706 or 1707 ; and now, in forty Years Time, six Horse-Waggon, and more of seven and eight, notwithstanding the Penalty, have made the Roads much worse than before ; notwithstanding the great Expence in continual mending them. But light Carriages would render the Charge and Inconveniency of Turnpikes needless.

It is apparent, that a sufficient Number of Men cannot be had, to repair the Roads with such Speed, as is necessary , and that, with all the Expence of Toll-Gates, they grow bad as soon as mended ; and that it is impossible to repair them effectually, and to keep them in Repair, but by employing the Soldiers in it, as the *Romans* did ; and they will do more Work in half a Day, if moderately task'd, than if kept to Work whole Days, as Labourers are ; as is seen by their making the Roads for Armies to march, &c. when they know what must be done, they'll do it with all Speed.

Speed. But, if to work by the Day, they will and must work as slow as Labourers do, or lose their Strength and be unable to continue to work.

I have heard People in many Counties say, they believe not half the Money that is paid at Toll-Gates is applied to repair the Roads. And they think too much is spent at Commissioners Meetings. And some Toll-Gatherers have been detected in Frauds; but it seems impossible to do it effectually: For many Men that are not to return the same Day, will not take Tickets, and some that do return needlessly give them back, when they should only shew them. And I have heard the Waiters tell People, they need not take Tickets (except they return, or are to deliver or shew them at a Check-Gate on the Road, of which there are but few) and they may and do keep the Tickets, which Men don't take, or which ignorant Men return, instead of shewing them only. And they may put all the Money in their own Pockets, which they receive of all Travellers, that don't take Tickets, or that return them (if kept clean); for the Toll-Takers pay the Collectors but for so many Tickets as they don't return to them; and the Riding-Inspectors may share with them in the Fraud, or not be able to discover it, if they are diligent and not remiss in their Duty; or, if it were all faithfully collected, and justly applied, it does not, nor ever can answer

the End for which it is given ; as is evident, from forty Years Experience. And as the many Complaints yearly shew, of the Roads being worse than ever, and their praying for the Removal of Toll-Gate Acts, as the Time expires for which they were granted, confirms the ill Consequence of continuing heavy Carriages.

But, 'tis difficult to persuade some Men to see their own Interest, or leave a bad Custom for a better. But there are abundance of Evidences, from different Customs, in several Parts of *England*, as well as in Foreign Countries. That in Carriages of all heavy Goods, that can be divided, it is more profitable to use light Carriages than heavy ones ; and that it is unnecessary and prejudicial to carry heavy Loads of Coals, Lime, Stone, or Wood, &c. and need not be allowed for any Thing but a long Timber Tree, or a vast large Stone for some extraordinary Occasions.

In some Coal-Roads near *Newcastle*, heavy Loads had made the Roads unpassable ; and by planking those Roads one Horse draws more Coals in a light Carriage, than six can do in bad Roads ; and the prime Cost and great Wear of one heavy Carriage is more chargeable than two light ones.

Let

Let it be considered, that the lightest Wag-
gons weigh two thousand and four hundred

Weight 2400

And fixty hundred Weight in Goods }

is _____ } 0000

And both make eighty-four hundred; 78,000

that is _____ } 8400

which ploughs up the Ground like a Battering Cannon, as I before noted ; so that a second Cannon could not follow it in the same Track in a soft Ground, where a great many Bread-Carriages with three Horses passed in one Tract with Ease, and without sinking the Ground into a deep Tract.

And two light Carriages, each with three Horses, will carry more than seventy Hundred, without pressing the Roads deep; because the Carriage does not need to weigh the third Part of a heavy Waggon; and as they may be made with lesser Wheels when the Roads are good, they will not obstruct Riders so much as one great Waggon, or many Pack-Horses; and they may with Ease turn out of the Road, on meeting other Carriages, which a heavy Waggon cannot do; and is oft the Cause of breaking a Waggon with its Axle-trees and Wheels, and damaging the Goods.

POST-

P O S T S C R I P T.

This last Act for weighing Waggon, with their Loading, is already evaded, by taking in Goods after the Certificate is given; and by putting Part of the Goods in a Cart, whilst they pass by any Weigh-House, and by passing in Bye-Roads to avoid Examination, &c. and it will be found impracticable in many respects. And it cannot answer any End, except for some Men to get Money by it, to no good Purpose, or if it could possibly be practised; it will soon be found, that sixty hundred Weight in one heavy Waggon will destroy the Roads, as the above Observations demonstrate; and be worse for Carriers, as well as all Men of Business, and consequently for the whole Kingdom.

And it has been, and will be found impossible, to make or preserve the Roads in good Order, (and it will become dangerous for Coaches to travel) by any other Method than is here proposed, and humbly submitted to Authority.

PHYLANTHROPOS.

N. B. Coach-Roads will be every where safe and good by this Scheme, and prevent broken Bones, and Ladies Fears and Frights; and make Travelling both pleasant and profitable

able to the Gentry and Men of Business, and to Carriers most of all.

And it is a very gross Mistake, to think, that no other Method than the present destructive one, can be comply'd with, or used in *England*, on account of our greater Recourse to *London*, than is in any Foreign Country; for in some larger Countries there is a greater Recourse to the Capital, than in *England*; but by light Carriages, and allowing a sufficient Breadth in the Roads, all Interference and Inconvenience is avoided; and Travelling made pleasant and profitable to all.





A SCHEME to prevent Robberies, Deer-Stealing, and destroying Game, and pernicious Gaming.

AS a House can't be built without a Foundation, nor stand long without a strong Foundation; so it is in Robbery. And its OEconomy may be compared to a great Mansion-House, in which there is one Master, and many Servants; but near which there are some small Cottages.

So in Robbery (but with this Difference, from an honourable and honest Master) their Houses of Call have one Master, that is a great Rogue, absolute and arbitrary; and many Servants that are Slaves, and dare not disobey, on Penalty of Death. And they have a confederate Combination, that hold a secret Cabal together. Tho', exclusive of these, there are some independent separate Robbers, and petty Larcenies, that, in respect of the combin'd Family, may be deem'd as Cottagers to a great House.

And

And the great Increase of Robbers makes a speedy Redress absolutely necessary.

But indeed, him whom I call Master, is rather but a Factor, or an Intendant and Corrigidor, tho' he bears a great Sway, and is the Felons more immediate Master; but some of the Confederates are Chiefs, and act together in Government, as an arbitrary Oligarchy in a Commonwealth; and these share great Part of the Booty. And the personal Actors in the Robberies, who hazard their Lives and Necks, must be content with what they think fit, or be impeached of some Robbery, and be hang'd or transported.

And they are under the same Penalty, if they refuse to rob at their Master's Command, singly, or by two, three or more together, as the Case requires. And they must not fail to attend every Night, at the House of Call and Seat of Government, on Penalty of Hanging.

Each confederate Oligarchy consists of a Thief-maker, falsely called a Thief-catcher; for they bring none to Justice, but for Disobedience, or secreting Part of the Booty: Or, the independant separate Robbers when they catch them, for their Contempt of their Authority, and refusing to be their Slaves.

And, by attending with some of their Gang at Gaming-Houses, Nine-Pin-Alleys, and Places of publick Resort, daily, and especially on Holidays, they decoy young Fellows to their Houses of Call, when they have lost their Money;

ney; and, if they can't seduce and delude them to be Thieves, they'll swear a Robbery against them, and find false Evidence to hang them; and by many Stratagems they are Thief-makers, and have Thief-harbourers, with whom to lodge their Thieves. And if a Thief that they value is apprehended, they will try many Tricks, and give Money out of their joint Stock kept in Bank, to bring him off.

These Thief-makers, and their Confederates, have obscure Warehouses, in part for such stolen Goods as will lie in a little room; and for the rest, they have in Confederacy Receivers and Disposers, and Buyers of stolen Goods, knowing them to be stolen, and Men to alter Things and Clothes so as not to be known; and some Things they keep at a distant Warehouse a full Year before they offer them to Sale, except they are offered a great Reward, and no Questions ask'd.

And they have Makers of Pick-locks, Bettys, Bludgeons, and other Implements for Robbery, and buy Cabinet-Saws and Gimblets to cut Window-Shutters; and have their Scouts and Informers, where and how, and with how many Hands a Robbery may be performed. All these belong to Foot-Robberies, and have a Share in the Oligarchy, and vote in their Cabinet-Council, and share great Part of the Booty.

And they have Men that drink at Tap-Houses in Inns every Evening, and they
off

oft see unwary Men receive Money in that publick Room ; and one of them slips out after them, and they have Men ready to dog them Home, and rob them in the dark, as they pass the Streets, at a convenient Place to stop them.

As to Highwaymen, that rob on Horseback, they are generally brought to it by another Sort of Thief-makers, who are Accomplices, and their Supporters ; and these are chiefly some Inn-keepers, both in the Town and in the Country. And when young Fellows have spent their Patrimony, at their Houses, they advise them to strike out and take a Purse ; and to bring the Watches, Rings, Snuff-Boxes, and other Things of Value to them, to secret them till they can be disposed of. And they have a great Share of all their Booty of Money, which they claim for Intimation to them, which of their Guests have, or seem to have Money ; or that foolishly discover it, in indirect Words, or in timorous Precautions, or Signs of Fear.

And they inform the Robber what Road they ride, and what Time they set out ; and concert with them, at what Time and Place to rob them. And in which the Tapsters, Chamberlains and Hostlers, or some, or one of them, are assisting in giving Intelligence, and have a proportionable Reward for it.

And those City and Country Inn-keepers have a Correspondence with one another ; by which, if the Robbery is committed near one

of them, the Robber flies to that Inn that is far distant.

And the Inn-keepers hold a Correspondence in *London*, with Receivers and Disposers of stolen Goods.

And as to the Highwaymen that reside in *London*, they do but few of them keep Horses; but, on the Inn-keepers Credit, they hire Horses at Livery-Stables, and ride on different coloured Horses, which they think less liable to Discovery than by always riding on one Horse. And they pay treble the Price of Hire, which honest Men pay: Not but that the Hirers know they dare not ride off with their Horses, but must return with them, or be unavoidably taken and hang'd for Robberies. These *London* Highwaymen never rob, but within a few Miles of *London*; as not having Horses fit to endure a long Course of swift Riding, to prevent their being seiz'd. But those who rob farther off, must have good Fox-Hunters, that will bear swift Riding a very long Course, to avoid Pursuers.

And that nothing may be wanting to carry on this pernicious Confederacy, the *London* Foot Combination have in their Warehouses a Wardrobe, out of which they equip fit Men, like Gentlemen in Dress, (and with Swords) by which they commit many notorious Frauds, and pick Pockets in great Assemblies of Quality; as, in particular, at an Installation of Knights of the Garter at *Windsor*, where they
get

get many Jewels and Gold-Watches. And they accommodate fit Women with Silk Gowns and fine laced Linen, in which Dress they pass more unobserv'd in Shop-lifting, and in stealing Gentlewomens Gold-Watches in Churches; and they have long strong Pockets, that reach to the Bottom of their Petticoats, that will hold a Roll of Silk or fine Linen, which they slide in unobserv'd. And the Men have Side-Pockets, that reach to their Breeches Knees, and shorter Pockets within them, on the Side of which is a Slit to let Things into the lower Pockets; and they have secret Pockets in their Wastecoats, with a Slit up towards the Hip, between the Cloth and the Lining of the Wastecoat.

And they have other Contrivances to hide stolen Things, which, by a thorough Search, may be found; but, heedless Searchers too oft let slip. And, as the Confederate Foot-pads do not, and dare not rob without Pocket-Pistols and short Daggers, tho' they don't use them but in Extremities, yet they terrify People with them in Surprise, and secure themselves with them in Pursuit; and their Masters furnish them with these, as well as all other necessary Implements for Burglary and Robbery.

There is another Evil that promotes Robbery, and that is, that Masters of Ships oft don't take as many Hands on Board, as they charge to the Merchant's Account; and as some

some die in the Voyage, and some desert the Ship and go to others, either as being ill used by the Master, and wanting good Provisions, or bribed by other Masters in want of Hands, by offering greater Wages to serve them; and the Masters that want Hands invite the transported Felons to come a-board their Ships, and give them Passage and Maintenance for helping to navigate the Ship, which they can do by good Direction under Sailors of Skill; and they take Money of some Fellows for their Passage. And what Punishment is too great for such Masters?—And why not a good Reward to Sailors that discover that Roguery, and other Evils done to the Publick by them?—Or, be punish'd, if their Connivance is prov'd.

If it be asked, how I know all these Particulars, without being an Accomplice? I answer, I had once a long Discourse with *Morris Evans*, a young Man of very great Sense, but a Footpad, in *Newgate*; to whom I went to detect a horrid Piece of Roguery, concerted by the famous *Moll Raby*, and *Connell* a notorious *Irish* Thief-catcher. And I attended five Sessions at the *Old Bailey*, e'er the Detection was fully compleated; by which means I knew by Sight thirty or forty Felons, and have seen some of them frequently in the Streets, two on one Side and two on the other; both to pick Pockets, and to observe where and how Burglaries might be effected. And they mark with a Chalk, where to saw a Piece out of
Window-

Window-Shutters, to draw out the Bolts, and open the Windows. And People should observe and rub out those chalk'd Marks daily.

I hope, I reclaimed *Evans*; for I never saw his Name in any Sessions Paper afterwards. He had been long enough in a Gang of Thieves, to know all that he told me; which I have above recited; and of which a full Account was printed in 1699, in a Paper called the *Britannia*, or *Free Briton* and *Journal*.

And some Members of the House of Commons promised me to promote an Act of Parliament, on the Scheme I proposed, to suppress Robbery. But it is not yet done, only I prevailed eleven Years afterwards to have an Act passed, to make what was called a Breach of Trust in Servants, Felony; which, I did, by hearing a Secretary of State say, *They had more Bills in hand than they could go through in that Sessions, and must drop that Bill*. But on my representing the Necessity for its being passed, he was pleased to say, *We will make you a Compliment of that Act*.

As to my Information of Highway or Horse Robberies, when I was one time in company with some *Exon*, and other Officers of the Horse-Guards, one of whom was Captain *Bero*, who had been a famous Robber; he frankly told a long Story of all that I have recited on that Head.

To both which Relations, I must now add, That next to what I have said of both Classes
of

of Robbers, nothing does so much increase and protect Thieves and Whores in *London*, as Ale-House Constables ; especially, when they are allowed for many succeeding Years to serve that Office, as Deputies to rich Shopkeepers, to save them the Trouble that attends it.

A Captain (my Friend) assur'd me, that when he raised Recruits in *London*, he daily found at many of these perpetual Ale-House Constables, Crouds of Thieves and common Whores, who were there for a Sanctuary ; and daily spent there what they got by robbing and whoring in the Night. Besides, selling them their stolen Goods, at very cheap Rates, as he was informed ; and after necessary Rest, Cards, Dice, Shuffle-Boards and Nine-Pins where they have Ground, was their Employment ; and they keep Men from being Soldiers, if they'll be Thieves : And they screen Rogues and Whores from Justice, as well as encourage them in their Wickedness. And they make their Houses Night-Houses, not only for Rogues and Whores, but they encourage Watchmen to assist and connive at Robberies ; and Watchmen that spend Money at their Houses may freely neglect their Stands, and going their Rounds. And some Watchmen protect House-breakers and Street-Robbers ; and if they don't all connive at, or act in concert with them, and share with them their Booty, their Neglect facilitates their Burglaries, &c. And it is notorious, that these Constables have kept drunken
Watchmen

Watchmen and Rogues in Place, and have refused honest sober Men, as not being good Customers to them.

When the Nights are long they should call seven Hours, and have gone but three or four; by which Shops have been robb'd whilst they were drinking at Alehouse Constables.

If unavoidable Poverty forced People to steal, they would deserve Pity. But their wicked Lives, and dying Speeches declare, that Idleness, Drunkenness, Gaming, Whoring, and Sabbath-breaking, as the chief Inlets to all other Wickedness, which bring them to their ignominious Exit.

And now, that the Scene of Wickedness is laid open, the Remedy seems plain, if put in Practice; which, I humbly submit to Authority.

And first, that no Alehouse-keepers should be allowed to be Deputy-Constables, nor Prime-Constables; but should serve in such other inferior Offices, as they may be safely intrusted; and pay a Fine for Exemption from the Office of Constable, to be given to the Poor.

And as for such Men, whose superior Business will not admit of their serving the Office of Constable, without great Detriment to their Affairs, such honest private House-keepers whose Business will admit of it, should be substituted to be their Deputies; to be paid by them for their Trouble, and be obliged to give a daily or frequent Account to their Principals of all Things necessary for them to know, relating to the Execution of the Office.

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And

And next, King *Athelred's* Law should be put in Execution, relating to Lodgers, viz. That no House-keeper, Man or Woman, shall entertain any mean Stranger of either Sex, in their House three Nights, without being answerable for their honest Behaviour; or, on Penalty of being prosecuted as a Partner in any ill Act that they shall commit.

And this can't be said to be a Hardship, because no honest Man or Woman goes from the Country to *London* but may have an authentick Certificate, and that has some Relation or Acquaintance there, with whom to lodge; or, that will recommend them to a Lodging in the Neighbourhood.

And, if the City was divided into small Districts, with an annual Superintendant over each District, Alehouse-keepers that entertain mean Lodgers might be obliged to give a nightly Account to them, of all new Lodgers they take in; and the Intendant should send a proper Inspector, to bring him a particular Account of the Lodger, and by whom recommended; and the Intendant should be paid his Charges by an annual Assessment, which would be but small, considering the great Good it would do.

This Precaution is nightly practised in all Garrison Towns, after shutting the Gates; and is thought no Hardship, but is duly performed, or a Penalty inflicted for Neglect.

And as those called Thief-catchers, and others (and such Women as *Moll Raby*, did) do
now

now entertain many Thieves at their Houses, the Constables, and Deputy-Constables, and Beadles, should daily, or frequently visit all suspected Houses by Day; and Night-Houses and Night-Cellars by Night, with the Watch; and commit all suspicious Parsons in those called Round-Houses till Morning, which should be deemed lawful Prisons, and then take them to a Justice of the Peace. And Information may be had of all such Houses, by Fellows that turn Evidence against their Fellow-Robbers.

And as few or no Robberies could be committed without Abettors, Harbourers and Assistants, with necessary Weapons and Implements for their wicked Acts; or without Buyers, or Receivers and Disposers of their stolen Goods; certainly, as they are the Foundation of Robbery, all such Persons should be deemed Principals, and suffer as such. And a Thief's Evidence should rather be allow'd against all such Persons, with sufficient corroborating Circumstances, than against a Robber that ventures his Life and Limbs in Robberies, and to be hang'd for them; and is but their Slave in doing it, and must do it at their Command, or be impeached by them, and hanged for refusing to obey their Command.

And all Makers, as well as Furnishers of secret Arms and Implements for Robbery, ought to suffer as Principals; as being a Sort of Ring-leaders into their pernicious Practice. And no Man should, on Penalty, sell a Cabinet-Saw,

but to known Cabinet-Makers, or to Iron-mongers, and they only to known Cabinet-Makers.

And as to Pocket-Pistols and short Daggers, none should be allowed to be made; and all that are made should be delivered up to Justices, and be destroyed; and condign Punishment inflicted on all on whom they are found, for they are of no use to honest Men, and often kill or maim Boys.

If it is objected, that the preventing Robbers using Fire-Arms will make them in Revenge exercise other Weapons, in a malicious and more cruel Manner; I hope the Objection will be answered, by saying first, that such secret Weapons are too much in use now, and used in so barbarous a Manner, as needs a speedy Remedy, by punishing the Makers and Furnishers of them with Death. And making it Death to have them found upon any Man, such as short Daggers and strong sharp-pointed Knives; or any Sort of Thing that may be called a Weapon, or that is not of common publick Use.

And why should it not be made Death, for any Man to travel with secret Arms or Weapons; or to have them found in his Pockets, or under Cover in Saddles, or otherways? As they are entirely useless to honest Purposes, or would be useless if not made and kept for ill Uses. But Men that run in Debt, never intending to pay, use secret Arms to protect themselves

selves from Arrests, by which Murders are sometimes committed.

And no good Reason can be given for permitting secret Arms; and if Robbers use Holster-Pistols and Swords, they may be distinguished from Gentlemen and great Dealers, and be the more easily detected.

- As to Deer-Stealers, I have been informed, that some Gentlemen of small Estates practise it. And when one of 200*l. per Annum* had run out his Estate, by keeping five or six idle Fellows to assist him in Deer-stealing, and giving them the Skins and Part of the Flesh, and feasting with them at a Country Alehouse and being drunk with them, and giving them Money he boasted of it to me, as a Thing that was all his Delight; tho', then to avoid Arrests, he was forced to go to *Ireland*, as a Recruit to a Troop of Horse, in which he ended his Days. He said, they had a way to catch Deer, by fixing Things that they liked to eat, on a Hook like a large Fish-hook, fastened to a long Cord tied about a Tree, and the Hook would stick in their Jaws; by which they laid hold of them, and killed, and carried them away.

As to Poachers, and Destroyers of smaller Game, it causes them to neglect their lawful Calling, and to become poor and chargeable to the Parish in old Age; or, to turn common Thieves. And, indeed, as they prey upon Gentlemen's Property, it is real Robbery, and deserves condign Punishment; and Parish Officers

ficers oft know, and might prevent that Evil, and should suffer for Connivance or Neglect to bring them to Justice.

And would not a Park-Owner's Name and Seal, on a small Piece of Vellum, or on a Brass Cypher, put on all Skins and Carcases of Deer, and the same transferr'd to Deer-Skins mill'd and dressed, and none to buy any without such Certificate, or to put on a false Mark, on Pain of Death or Transportation, prevent Deer-stealing; with Pardon to Accomplices, that inform and prove their Allegations.

And if Beadles daily searched Alehouses, in and at the Out-parts of *London*, and other Towns, that daily suffer idle Fellows to spend the Day at Cards and Dice in their Houses, and at Shuffle-Boards, and that keep (some of them five or six Setts of) Nine-pins, and daily entertain from twenty to sixty idle Fellows at Play all Day; or, at Fives, or *Welch* Tennis, or *Scot's* long Bullets. And if the Beadles have Assistants to be Evidence, and Rewards given, and due Penalties inflicted, it would prevent Fellows turning Thieves and robbing; there being in *London* always Thief-makers, called Catchers, and Thieves intermixed in the Number of idle Fellows at all those Rendezvous of Iniquity, who entice the idle Fellows to be Thieves.

And if a Table of Fees in the Charge of prosecuting Robbers, is stated in the Act, and published so as to be known to all Men, it
would

would prevent the Imposition of double Fees, which are oft complained of, and very much discourages Men from prosecuting Thieves; and many Men cannot bear the Loss of Time, in attending three or four Days on a Justice of Peace, and at the Court at the *Old Bailey*, or other Courts, as not knowing when their Trial will be brought on; and they say, the Loss of Time from Business, and the Charge of travelling to County Assizes and Prosecution, amounts to four or five Pounds; which is more than a great many Men can bear, and oft makes Thieves escape Prosecution. And, as other Men that are able, are not fin'd for Non-Prosecution, it is another Cause of Thieves escaping due Punishment, to the great Increase of Robbers.

Morris Evans was not prosecuted for the Robbery, for which he was imprisoned, when I saw him; nor was the Sessions-Book call'd for, as ought to be, to convict him of Non-Transportation, so that he was soon released; and, I hope, he took my Advice, to go instantly out of Town to some remote Place, to work at his Trade, by a chang'd Name, as he promised to do; being tired with the Slavery he had been under to his cruel Thief-Masters, and the Dangers he was continually exposed to.

And why, in the apparent Inability of Men, should not Fellows be prosecuted at the publick Charge, as it is for the publick Safety? And they

they be instructed by Justices of Peace, or Pauper's Council appointed to do it ; as well as a good Reward given to honest Men that take Robbers and bring them to Justice ; not idly to make a Trade of it, in Neglect of their lawful Calling, but as it falls in their Way.

But, in great Cities, Watchmen are not sufficient ; and a Guard, or several Guards, and hourly Patroles are necessary, to prevent Robbery and Breach of the Peace.

And, except to entertain Higglers, that in hot Weather travel in the Night to *London* Markets, no Alehouse should be suffer'd, on Penalty, to have Men at their Houses at undue Hours, as it both harbours and secures Thieves from being taken.

I think it not unnecessary, to add a short Account of *Moll Raby's* and *Connell's* Villainy.

An unwary Gentleman (my Friend) had let *Rogers*, a Porter, pack up in a large Trunk some rich Suits of Clothes of his and his Lady's, and a large Service of Plate, and a good Sum of Money in Silver and Gold ; and rode out of Town on *Tuesday*, and bid *Rogers* carry the Trunk to the Carrier's Inn any Day between that and *Saturday*, and gave him half a Crown. *Rogers* on *Friday* saw the Master and Mistress of the House, where the Trunk was left, go out to dine from home, and three Children in the Parlour under Age to be Evidence, and the Maid below in the Cellar, he bid the Children
open

open the Door, and took the Trunk, the Children seeing him, and carry'd it home, and consulted with *Moll Raby* and *Connel*, who provided a notorious Rogue, *Jos. Hatfield*, to swear that he and *Morris Evans*, then in *Newgate*, stole the Trunk. And as the Master of the House was unjustly suspected to be a Partner in the Robbery; to do Justice to him, and to my Friend, I went and examined *Hatfield* in *Newtener's Lane*, and *Evans* in *Newgate*, and found them in two contrary Stories; and, as *Evans* said, he expected to die for not transporting himself (as was then the Law), he had taken three Guineas to plead guilty; and said, if he had not done it, they would have indited him for other Robberies, and hanged him.

Judge *Powel* knowing *Hatfield* to have been a Thief from his Cradle, and now not being (as he mistakenly fancy'd) the King's Evidence, ordered him to be chain'd and brought to Trial next Morning, to be hang'd on his own Confession. But he not coming, Sir *Sol. Lo——l*, Recorder, pleaded for *Hatfield*, who was in Fee with him, as being always provided with Money; and Sir *Sol.* got the Trial put off from Time to Time, till the fifth Session, when, on his saying it was a malicious Prosecution of a poor young Man, and his first Offence, which he with Sorrow confess'd; Lord Chief Justice *Holt* began to be in a Passion with me (which is a Thing that frights some Evidence from speaking); but when I had exposed the wicked

Contrivance, he turned to Sir *Sol.* and reproached him heartily, and highly commended me for the Pains I had taken to sift out that Piece of intricate Roguery ; and said, I might hang *Hatfield* on his own Confession, if I would : But I said, tho' I was well informed, that he deserved to be hanged for many Robberies, yet I was sure he was not guilty of stealing the Trunk, and would not hang him for it.

Rogers died in Gaol, and so the Matter ended ; but which I explain'd more at large in (I think it was) the *British Journal* ; which, I believe, is in some Hands ; but I have lost the Copy which I had of it.

I write not for Reward, but publick Good ; and most humbly submit in all to the Legislature.

ANTIFELLONIUS.

P O S T S C R I P T.

I find it necessary to add, to what I have said of a more effectual Act, to make Harbours of Thieves, and Buyers of stolen Goods, Capital Offenders ; by observing, That the sixth Clause of the Act of the fifth of
Queen

Queen *Anne*, on that Head, is very deficient : For it is evident, that a great Number of Thieves are daily harboured, that escape Prosecution; and Abundance of Goods proved to be stolen, when the Felon may not be discovered; and both are indeed too frequent: And therefore neither that Act, nor any other, can be of much Effect, if Harbourers of Thieves and Buyers of stolen Goods proved to be stolen, are not made Capital Offenders. And this should be done, tho' the Thieves abscond, as *Turpin* did a great while, and many others do, and are not to be found.

Goods may be proved to be stolen by an Assistant in the Robbery; if, by advertizing, the Goods are own'd by People of Reputation, and prov'd by their Servants or others, that knew the Goods.

And Servants may be Evidences of their Masters harbouring Thieves, in Conjunction with other Evidence, and be rewarded for both, or punished as Accessaries, if proved against them, either by Assistance or Connivance.

And, to make the last Article in the above Act effectual, High-Sheriffs as well as Under-Sheriffs should be responsible for Payment of Rewards; without which Under-Sheriffs may evade the Payment, and render the Act ineffectual.

King *Alfred's* Law put an effectual End to Robbery, by making it penal for any House-keepers

keepers to entertain and lodge any Person unknown to them, more than two Nights ; or, not having a good Account of them by Persons which they themselves knew to be Persons of good Reputation. And if not, they were to be deemed Accessaries in whatever Robberies their Lodger should commit.

And it would deter Men from Theft, if there could be in Part an Exchange made for Transport-Felons, to redeem honest Men that are Slaves in *Africa*.

Whores first seduce Men to rob, and then force them to it, by threatening a Discovery if they don't bring them Money : As Thief-Catchers do, and get the greatest Share of the Booty ; and if one Rogue murmurs, they force another to swear a Robbery against him, or if they refuse to rob at their Command ; and yet both Whores and Thief-Catchers, tho' chiefly guilty, go unpunish'd. And I repeat, that Thief-Catchers are Thief-Makers ; and, on Evidence, should be punished as Capital Offenders.

N. B. If the Breach of Laws were considered as a high Offence to God, as well as to the King, and to all Governors ; and to all honest People too, as being God's Children and Subjects, as well as the King's Subjects, and to the great Disturbance and Detriment of Civil Society ; sure no Punishment that is not inflicted with inhuman Cruelty, can be too much

much for a few Criminals that disturb, molest, and damnify the whole numerous Community, and put them in continual Fear, by Daily and Nightly Robberies, and frequent Murders, Loss, and Damage. And strict Justice, if not Severity in such Cases, is Mercy to the Innocent, not only in protecting them in their just Rights and Properties, but by deterring the innocent from becoming guilty Offenders, and by that preventing the Increase of Rogues.





A SCHEME proposed for preserving Sailors from that inveterate Scurvy, which in long Voyages destroys many of them, and renders many of them useless and burdensome; and has been the Cause of the Loss of Ships by Storms, for want of Hands; and has made some Ships fall an easy Prey to their Enemies.

SEA-Fish is extremely fresh, and many Experiments shew, that Sea-Water will make Salt Meat fresh.

And particularly, a Captain of my Acquaintance, after suffering by the Scurvy in a long Voyage, said, he had his Salt-Meat put in a Net, and hung by a Cord in the Water; and by the Ship's Motion in a little Time, it would make the Meat as fresh as he pleased. By which he prevented the ill Effects, which he had before suffered by Salt-Meats.

That Method can't be practis'd for a Ship's Crew. But,

Two Cisterns may be made to hold a Day's Provision, and set close together, in or near the Cook-Room; and a Pump fixed on the Outside of the Ship, and the Lever be within it, with a moving Spout, to turn to both Cisterns, or with two Spouts, and a Stopple in one whilst the other runs.

And

And some Hands must be employ'd to pump Water, and to wash and rub the Salt off the Meat in one Cistern, and to put it in the other to soak, till it is fresh enough for wholesome Use, which will be in a few Hours; especially, if the Water is drawn off every Hour, or sooner, by a Cock with a long Leathern Pipe, to carry the Water out of the Ship, and the Cistern fill'd again by the Pump with more Sea-Water; or it may be Hand-wash'd more than once, and shifted from one Cistern to the other, if found more expeditious, and more effectual.

N. B. Salt-Broth is far worse than Salt-Meats, which makes the Bruis pernicious: And the Burgoo is hurtful, if made with any of the Salt-Broth; for the Salt in Liquids and light Meats passes instantly into the Blood; but in solid Meat it is delayed in the Stomach, and in part goes off by Evacuations, and so is less prejudicial than in Liquids.

Salt-Petre is used by many to season Beef, as well as pickled Pork and Bacon, mixed with common Salt in a sufficient Proportion; and (if not too chargeable) would very much prevent the corrosive Malignity of common Salt, and the painful Thirst that is caus'd by it; which oft induces Men, when hot, to drink a large Quantity of cold Small-beer, or Water, to allay their Thirst; and is the Cause of Surfeits, Fevers, Pleurifies, Dropsies, and other fatal Diseases.

Flos Sulphur, internally used in a Compound of moist cooling and healing Things, is a good Means to cure the Scurvy; but, as it is commonly used, it is too heating and drying for much internal Use, and has generally very ill Effects so used.

Quick-Lime infus'd in Water, and drank in a Morning, has cured many People of inveterate Scurvies: But I am not a Physician; so leave it to them to prescribe. Yet I cure many Poor, without Fee or Reward.

I most humbly submit in this, and all Things, to authoritative Determination; and, as I wish well to all People, I subscribe myself,

PHILO-CONSERVATUS.

P. S. In Merchants Ships, in a small Number of Sailors, some that are sickly are allow'd to freshen their Salt-Flesh; but that cannot be done in Men of War, if not for the whole Ship's Crew, otherwise than as may be done in the Method that I propose.





A PROPOSAL for the Preservation of our River, and Pond Fisheries from the daily Destruction that is now made of them; shewing the Insufficiency of the Laws now in being, to restrain that wicked Practice.

ABOUT Thirty-five Years since, a Law was made, to prevent catching under-fiz'd, or not half-grown Fish, which was ineffectual, for want of a Penalty on Net-makers and Buyers, as well as on Catchers and Sellers of Fish. A few Nets were once inform'd of, out of a particular Spite, and burnt, but no Notice has been since that taken of them; but in three Months after the Act was made, it was begun to be broke, and Flounders are now sold that are not broader than Half a Crown; and Eels as small as Tobacco-

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bacco-Pipes, and other Fish under-fiz'd in great Abundance; by which the Fisheries will soon be destroyed, as the *Walfleet* Oysters were by catching them too small. And the Case will be the same of Salmon, if not prevented in Time.

About sixty Years ago, I heard a very old Fishmonger say, that he heard his Grandfather, who was a Fishmonger, say, that in his own Remembrance the *Thames* served *London* with Salmon sufficiently. And now but few are found in it, they being destroyed by taking the Salmon out of Season, in fishing earlier and later than the proper Time appointed by Law; and by taking the small Fry at the Head of that, and other Rivers, which will destroy the Fisheries, if not timely prevented.

A Gentleman, that had a Salmon-Fishery in the River *Tweed*, Anno 1694, told me, That it brought his Grandfather five and six hundred Pounds a Year, his Father between two and three hundred Pounds a Year, or not more than three hundred at most, and himself not above sixty at most, and oft much less; caused by Fishing too early and late in the Year, for want of sufficient Penalties to restrain them, or want of Intendants and Inspectors, and putting the Acts in Execution; which is, and ever will be the Case, if all the Parties concern'd

cern'd in the Breach of Laws are not alike punished, the Buyer as well as the Seller of under-sized Fish; and Net-makers, for Nets of too small Masbes. And Informers of all these Things, and against Poachers, not Brow-beaten and reproached, but protected, contennanced, encouraged and well rewarded.

And Poachers of Fish, and other Game, are idle Fellows, that leave their lawful Employments, and pass all their Time in Poaching, till they grow so poor that they turn common Thieves, or they and their Wives and Children fall to the Parish Charge for their Maintenance. But if there was a Penalty laid on all Buyers of Game of known Poachers, and a greater on Parish Officers, that not only connive at them, but oft screen and protect them for having Game given them; and a Reward given to all Informers of all practised Law-Breakers, it would effectually prevent it. But Laws will never be well obey'd whilst Informers are discountenanced and reproached, instead of being commended and rewarded.

N. B. There is a false Pretence prevails, that Salmon, caught as small as Herrings or Gudgeons, are not Salmon, but Samlins, that never will grow larger; which is a wicked Evasion of the Truth, it being true that they are not allow'd to be Salmon, till they are grown to a certain Size and Weight. And it

is certain, they cannot grow larger if they are killed when they are small ; but would grow to be large Salmon, if not killed whilst small ; and so of other Fish.

CORRIGIDORUS.





A PROPOSAL for increasing our National Wealth, by a moderate Restraint and Limitation of the Exportation of our Tin and Lead unwrought; and for encouraging the Exportation of it, manufactured, in all useful Forms and Fashions.

WOOL is not the only Thing in which we give our native Property to Foreigners.

We have better Tin, and more in Quantity, than in any other Country in the World.

Our Historians affirm, that before *England* was inhabited, the *Phœnicians* came yearly to *England*, to get and carry home Tin. But, being far distant, left none of their People to inhabit here; till after they fled from *Joshua* and *Israel* to *Greece*, and settled there. And then

then they left a Number of Hands to work in the Tin-Mines ; and some to cultivate Land for their Sustenance ; and left some Beasts, and Sheep and Horses, to be serviceable to them.

And certainly now, if unwrought Tin was prohibited to be exported (not totally) but with some necessary Exceptions, and reasonable Limitations, our manufacturing it for Exportation would employ many thousand Hands, to the Manufactures great Profit, and enriching the whole Kingdom.

And we have greater Plenty of Lead than most other Nations, and exporting it all in Pigs is a great Loss to the Kingdom ; when, if much of it was rolled into Sheets and sold in Rolls, and manufactured into Cisterns, Urns and Vases, and other Vessels, and so exported, it would employ abundance of Hands, and greatly increase our Wealth.

And we might make of our Tin a fine Sort of Cisterns, Urns, Vases, and other Vessels, besides Dishes, Plates, and several other Sorts of Utensils ; and we might export much Tile for Looking-Glasses ; and we might harden and temper some Tin, so as to look and wear almost as well as Silver, to our great Profit.

Provided

Provided, that Governors of the Company are fully authorized and empowered to have such a Surety made, of all wrought Pewter, as to prevent all base Allays, on Penalty to be inflicted by Law in that Behalf made.

And to keep the Pewter to as good a Standard as is made in some foreign Countries of our Tin, which would be better for both Buyer and Seller, and do the Kingdom Honour, and the Maker Credit and Profit ; as is seen by a foreign Pewterer in *London*.

We have not the best Copper, nor a great Abundance of it ; but we might increase our Trade in wrought Copper and Brass, if well managed, in large Ware, as well as in Toys and small Things.

METALINUS.

F I N I S.

